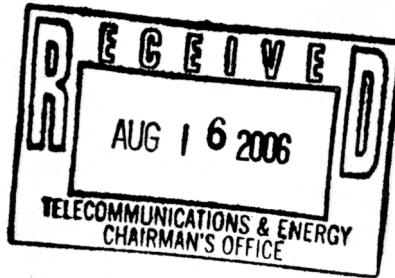




OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY WHIP

MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 215, BOSTON 02133



COMMITTEES:

RULES / ETHICS

FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

JOAN MENARD

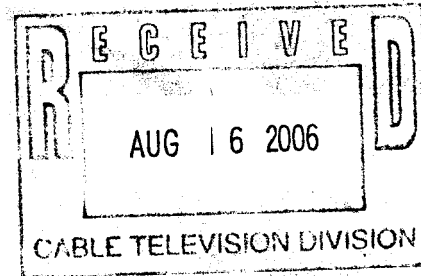
MAJORITY WHIP

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August 11, 2006

Judith Judson, Chairman
Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy
Cable Television Division
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110



RE: CTV 06-1

Dear Ms. Judson:

I am writing to you today to express my concerns with Verizon's proposed "Petition for Adoption of Competitive License Regulation" (Docket No. CTV-06). As the Senator for Lakeville and other cities and towns in the SouthCoast, I appreciate the opportunity to share my concerns regarding this proposal.

Verizon's proposal would allow for an established, shorter timeframe for negotiating with municipalities to offer cable services to the residents of each city and town in Massachusetts. This proposal has created concern that the contract negotiation process for our state's cities and towns will be negatively impacted. The majority of cities and towns in our Commonwealth have bargained in good faith over the years with other cable providers and it is possible that this proposal could do serious damage to these long standing relationships.

I am well aware that increased competition within the cable television market may ultimately benefit the citizens of our Commonwealth. However, I do not feel as though this proposal will help our residents. Instead, it will force local officials to make crucial decisions without having a fair amount of time to bargain with the providers.

I appreciate your attention to this matter. If you have any further questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Joan M. Menard

State Senator, First Bristol and Plymouth District